DETAILED ACTION

1. **Claims 1-14 and 16-30** been presented examined on merits and are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 03/16/2011 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Argument: Giroti does not disclose, either expressly or implicitly, how to "select an appropriate endpoint address of the plurality of endpoint addresses assigned to the participant from the participant's client device in response to a request to join the multimedia collaboration session, the network and the media type."

Response: With due respect to the argument presented examiner submits the following response. Giroti as stated in paragraph [0097-0099], [0114], Referring to FIG. 26, each participant creates his own personal profile from the user registration screen 260 and enters information such as name/password 261, phone 262, email address 263, personal digital assistant information 264, primary notification method 264, account information 266 and other similar personal information. Once registered, the participant is available to be scheduled in a conference by others, assuming they have access privileges to schedule this participant. The process of user registration is provisioned from a web browser and the database is stored in the convergence appliance 10. This

pre-registration process "informs" the convergence appliance 10 of the various devices (endpoint addresses) that a user can use. During this registration process, the convergence appliance 10 collects and stores information such as phone number and service provider of the user's mobile phone while other dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the convergence appliance. The latter is generally true with endpoint or IP addresses when a computer or a wireless handheld device is connected to an IP network, a wireless local area network or a mobile IP network uses Dynamic Host Control Protocol, 802.11x or Mobile IP protocols, respectively. By knowing the endpoint or IP address or, for instance, the phone number, the convergence appliance 10 can appropriately distribute data or voice content to each particular device or channel. By knowing the device type, the content is reformatted in a particular media and delivered in a single media, (i.e. voice, data or video). Content can also be delivered on multiple channels and devices being used by a user simultaneously. This enables the appliance to allow each participant, for instance using a mobile phone, to participate in a conference and enables a user not only to talk but also to use special commands available on the touch-tone pad of a phone to initiate email delivery to his computer or issue whisper commands to request data or communicate with a subset of the participants. A participant using a mobile phone can invoke these commands from the phone's keypad. However, a participant's ability to invoke such commands is controlled by the status and context of the conference and the

user's privileges. The appliance therefore delivers the controls for only appropriate commands to a user through a touch-tone keypad not only based upon a user's authorization profile, but also based upon the context of the conference. To achieve real time device awareness, the appliance 10 keeps track of all the devices from which each participant has previously connected. The appliance 10 constantly updates its awareness of each user's device connection through polling or presence or the like (selects the appropriate endpoint addresses of the plurality of addresses of devices through which participants are connected). FIG. 30 shows a converged conference scenario illustrating a 14 step process in which participants use both voice to confer with each other and data to collaborate within the same session. They may be using their mobile phones, PSTN phones or VoIP phones for voice and they may be using their laptop, desktop PC, Blackberry, Palm V or HP Jornada type devices to share and collaborate with data. Each of them is connected with different devices but each participates in a converged conference session.

Further, Girard as stated in col. 40, lines 44-67, col. 41, lines 1-2, does disclose Edge Switch, PACKETIZATION COPROCESSOR subcomponent enforces preferential routing policies to ensure higher priority voice and video packets are routed in a timely fashion. The IP ROUTING MODULE prioritizes packets for routing based upon a labeling mechanism that assigns them to predefined QoS standards. Higher priority packets are classified and scheduled for processing ahead of lower priority packets. The IP ROUTING MODULE

supports transmission pathways in which both connection endpoints correspond to voice or video terminals plugged into the same EDGE SWITCH [1], and supports a programmatic interface such that it may be directly controlled by software in the IP ROUTING SYSTEM.

Hence arguments presented are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1-14 and 16-30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 20040034723 to Giroti, Sudhir K., (hereinafter "Giroti"), and U.S. Patent No. 7283519 to Girard; Gregory D., (hereinafter "Girard").

As regards to Claim 1, *A multimedia collaboration system for facilitating a multimedia collaboration session between a plurality of participants, comprising a plurality of client devices associated with each of the plurality of participants, each of the plurality of client devices configured to store endpoint address information associated with an associated participant, the multimedia collaboration system configured to* (Giroti as stated page 2, paragraph [0023], [0025], FIG. 1 is a system block diagram of a converged conferencing appliance capable of establishing and managing a multi-device concurrent voice, data and video conference by enabling multiple conference

participants to connect from one or more devices concurrently. Participants may connect and participate in an integrated voice, data and video conferencing session by connecting simultaneously from one or more diverse devices, and enables users to talk, view video and collaborate with data--all simultaneously and within the context of a single session operating over multiple devices, channels and network):

automatically obtain the endpoint address information from each of the plurality of client devices (as stated page 7, paragraph [0097], During registration process, the appliance 10 collects and stores information such as phone number and service provider of the user's mobile phone while other dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the appliance);

associate a plurality of endpoint addresses associated with a participant of the plurality of participants with a network and with a media type, wherein the endpoint address is any end point that can communicate including a website, a session initiation protocol telephone, a telephone, a cellular telephone, a personal digital assistant, and any other type of media component that can communicate (as stated page 7, paragraph [0097], Referring to FIG. 26, each participant creates his own personal profile from the user registration screen 260 and enters information such as name/password 261, phone 262, email address 263, personal digital assistant information 264, primary notification method 264, account information 266 and other similar personal information. Once registered, the participant is available to be scheduled in a conference by others. The process of user registration is provisioned from a web browser and the database is

stored in the appliance 10. This pre-registration process "informs" the appliance 10 of the various devices that a user can use);

select an appropriate endpoint address of the plurality of endpoint addresses assigned to the participant from the participant's client device in response to a request to join the multimedia collaboration session, the network and the media type, the plurality endpoint addresses being assigned priorities (as stated page 6, paragraph [0083], [0087], page 9-10, paragraph [0117-0118], the host can schedule a new conference by selecting a number of participants by clicking the "Participants" icon or hyperlink 216, schedule a time when the conference starts 217, define the Mode as Voice, Data, Video or All 218, Enable notifications 220 to be sent to all participants. Referring to FIG. 25, after the conference has been scheduled, step 240, and the "send notification" process is invoked that sends voice or data notifications and alerts, step 241. For each conference that is just scheduled, all of the participants are grouped, based upon their preferred methods of notification, step 242. The conference setup parameters and configuration are stored in a persistent repository. If Microsoft Exchange module is enabled and the list of attendees is reference able from Exchange, then the switch retrieves the email and contact information of the attendees. Amy gets a callback on her phone, as that is her preferred method of callback whenever she is scheduled into a conference. Bob is perhaps traveling internationally and has defined his policy that he should be notified about the conference via an email and an SMS message);

and automatically attempt to connect to at least one client device and an associated endpoint at the selected end point address based on a priority assigned to the end point; wherein the automatically obtaining endpoint address information and the associated plurality of endpoint addresses is performed in at least one of: parallel, sequentially and simultaneously for one or more participants in the collaboration system (as stated page 6, paragraph [0087-0090], page 8, paragraph [0103-0107], A user may initiate a multi-channel, multi-device session with either a voice device or a data device. It is possible that a participant may join the conference through data, immediately before the voice conference is to start. Alternatively, a participant may join the conference through a phone followed by the data side later. The following steps 1-4, describes a process of connecting from a phone 80, 82 or 84, a wireless personal digital assistant 90, 92, 94 or 96, and a Voice over IP device 88. Typically a user may connect from any voice device, and any data device one after the other. A VoIP session may be connected as opposed to a phone for the voice session. The aforementioned process illustrates the mechanism to invoke a parallel voice session to an existing data session. The reverse holds true as well, when an ongoing voice session invokes a parallel data session. By delivering voice and data files or dynamic content over multiple devices, a user simultaneously interacts with both voice and data.

Giroti does not explicitly disclose "endpoint addresses being assigned priorities".

Giroti does disclose dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the appliance 10 with endpoint or IP addresses when a computer or a wireless handheld device is connected to an IP network, a wireless local

area network or a mobile IP network uses Dynamic Host Control Protocol, 802.11x or Mobile IP protocols.

However in the same field of BROADBAND NETWORK INTERFACE for conferencing and collaboration Girard does disclose Edge Switch, PACKETIZATION COPROCESSOR subcomponent enforces preferential routing policies to ensure higher priority voice and video packets are routed in a timely fashion. The IP ROUTING MODULE prioritizes packets for routing based upon a labeling mechanism that assigns them to predefined QoS standards. Higher priority packets are classified and scheduled for processing ahead of lower priority packets. The IP ROUTING MODULE supports transmission pathways in which both connection endpoints correspond to voice or video terminals plugged into the same EDGE SWITCH [1], and supports a programmatic interface such that it may be directly controlled by software in the IP ROUTING SYSTEM.

Since Giroti and Girard are both in the same field of multimedia conferencing appliance that enables participants to interact in a conferencing mode via a combination of media (e.g., voice, data and video) from a variety of devices (e.g., computer, wireless devices, mobile phones), from a variety of networks (e.g., PSTN, IP, Wireless, Cable and Broadband) from any global location it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention based on the above disclosure by Giroti and Girard to combine the teaching of Giroti and Giroti as both a improve on the existing Broadband and VOIP networks and fulfill the need for a conferencing appliance and Edge Switch that enables participants to connect using disparate devices over

heterogeneous networks and which delivers a converged voice, data and video session in an integrated way.

As regards to Claim 2, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia collaboration session comprises a plurality of media components, and wherein the endpoint address information is used to add a new media component to the multimedia collaboration session* (as stated page 7-8, paragraph [0092], [0098-0102], The context of the session is stored in the database. The database records are updated in a ConfInProgress table which is part of the conferencing database schema. If the user had already logged in through the phone, his record is updated to reflect the timestamp of the login from a data window. If the user logs in for the first time, a new record is created in the ConfInProgress table. FIG. 20 illustrates a converged voice and data session in which a user connects first through the phone followed by the browser. The voice session is established followed by the data session, the detailed steps of which have been provided with reference to FIGS. 17-19. Content can also be delivered on multiple channels and devices being used by a user simultaneously. FIG. 21 illustrates a block diagram of the components of the conference convergence engine 274 and its operation. The engine 274 interacts with the conference manager and appliance ports 276 to deliver converged content. The converger supports three media streams and media types: Voice, Data and Video 277. The media interchange 279 is an interchange of different media streams that the switching fabric 278 interacts with. A voice stream in XML (e.g., VoiceXML) may have to be transformed into a data stream (e.g., WML or HTML)).

As regards to Claim 3, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoints address information for each participant comprises endpoint address information for a plurality of endpoints* (as stated page 3, paragraph [0051], FIG. 26 is a block diagram depicting user registration, where the user have plurality of endpoint address information).

As regards to Claim 4, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 3, wherein priority can be assigned to the plurality of endpoints for each participant* (as stated page 3, paragraph [0052], page 9, paragraph [0111-0112], FIG. 28 is a block diagram depicting the conferencing dashboard 325 enables conference participants to operate, administer, manage and interact with the conference. Participants can also view from a graphical interface the status of all the participants. A conference host controls a series of programming controls for each participant. For instance, a host can "mute" a specific user or "disconnect" him from the conference. The voice conferencing icon or hyperlink 330 gives the status of the voice conferencing session. This allows calls to be forwarded to another phone, enables new attendees to be included, and provides callbacks and other telephony functions. Messages could be sent as private messages to a subset or all of the conference participants. The special function icon or hyperlink 332 enables special voice and data sessions to be invoked. For instance, participants can request all shared files to be sent as emails or the email and contact information of each participant can be delivered to one user's email box).

Further Girard as stated in col. 38, lines 35-56 disclose, Support for voice-over-IP or video-over-IP call sessions on the subscriber side requires that the EDGE SWITCH

perform a prioritized IP routing function to ensure the timely transport of IP packet flows bi-directionally between the TELEPHONE STATIONS [3] (and SET-TOP BOXES [4]) and the IP CARRIER NETWORK [6]. As TELEPHONE STATIONS [3] (and SET-TOP BOXES [4]) answer incoming SIP call sessions or originate outgoing SIP call sessions, the EDGE SWITCH dynamically reserves the requisite network side bandwidth on demand--effectively removing it from the pool of bandwidth available to COMPUTER WORKSTATIONS [5]--and discreetly reassigns it to media transmission.

As regards to Claim 5, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 3, wherein a hierarchy can be assigned to the plurality of endpoints for each participant* (as stated page 3, paragraph [0053], page 9, paragraph [0113], FIG. 29 is a table (hierarchy) of certain functions used in a conferencing telephony dashboard. A conceptual dashboard enabling telephony functions is also available to those using a phone. Using special touchtone commands, participants can forward calls, join more parties to the call, deliver agenda and presentation to their email address invoke voice commands, whisper commands and do a number of other functions, as illustrated in FIG. 29).

Further Girard as stated in col. 44, lines 47-58, col. 62, lines 51-58 disclose, Software subcomponent in the EDGE SWITCH [1] that implements support for the "SIP Proxy Server". SDP is an adjunct protocol to SIP and is used by SIP network signaling endpoints participating in a call session to describe to each other the detailed characteristics of the voice or video media streams (i.e. bearer channels) that they are capable of receiving from each other. SIP PROXY SERVER functions much like an intermediary SIP message router to ensure that the SIP network signaling messages

to/from the SIP endpoints in the network are ultimately channeled to the correct destination. In this message-routing capacity, several SIP PROXY SERVERS can cooperate to pass SIP network signaling messages bi-directionally through a hierarchy of SIP PROXY SERVERS, each of which gets it closer to the target endpoint.

As regards to Claim 6, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the new media component is an audio conferencing component* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0094], A participant armed with a VoIP enabled computer or a wireless personal digital assistant can invoke a VoIP session with the convergence conferencing appliance and participate in a conference with other participants who may be using PSTN phones, mobile phones, VoIP phones or similar VoIP enabled computers and devices as illustrated in FIG. 19. A Voice over IP channel is opened and interaction with the user is purely voice. If the active conference also supports data, the convergence manager advises the converger to stay awake for another potential session from the participant, steps 516-520).

As regards to Claim 7, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 6, wherein the addition of the audio conferencing component includes the addition of telephonic conferencing via a telephonic network* (as stated page 9, paragraph [0112], The voice conferencing icon or hyperlink 330 gives the status of the voice conferencing session. This allows calls to be forwarded to another phone, enables new attendees to be included, and provides callbacks and other telephony functions).

As regards to Claim 8, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 7, wherein the multimedia collaboration session occurs over a network that is separate from the*

telephonic network (as stated page 4, paragraph [0065], Referring again to FIG. 1, the convergence conferencing appliance 10 has physical ports to connect it to various networks 20-70. To connect to the public telephone network 20 and traditional mobile phone network 30, connectivity is provided via different types of voice ports 12. To connect to data networks such as traditional IP 40 and wireless LAN or WAN 50, network connection capability is provided through various data ports 14).

As regards to Claim 9, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 7, wherein the multimedia collaboration session occurs over one network and the added media component is associated with a second network* (as stated page 5, paragraph [0076], Referring again to FIG. 1, a variation of the conferencing appliance 10 also provides broadband connectivity in two ways. First, directly through physical broadband ports 18 supporting cable, HFC and fixed wireless networks on the backplanes, and secondly, through the data ports 14. Either way, third party broadband devices 98 with various endpoints and residential gateways 99 can be directly connected to the conferencing appliance 10).

As regards to Claim 10, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 9, wherein the two networks use separate access devices* (as stated page 1, paragraph [0007], the present invention to provide conferencing interactivity among various conferencing participants using disparate devices working in concert, over different media streams such as voice, data and video).

As regards to Claim 11, *(Original) The multimedia collaboration system of claim 9, wherein the two networks use different addressing schemes* (as stated page 7,

paragraph [0097], During registration process, the appliance 10 collects and stores information such as phone number and service provider of the user's mobile phone while other dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the appliance. The latter is generally true with endpoint or IP addresses when a computer or a wireless handheld device is connected to an IP network, a wireless local area network or a mobile IP network uses Dynamic Host Control Protocol, 802.11x or Mobile IP protocols, respectively).

As regards to Claim 12, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to facilitate the addition of a new media component to the collaboration session by automatically storing the endpoint address information for each of the plurality of participants as each participant joins the multimedia collaboration session* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0099], To achieve real time device awareness, the appliance 10 keeps track of all the devices from which each participant has previously connected. The appliance 10 constantly updates its awareness of each user's device connection through polling or presence or the like).

As regards to Claim 13, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to facilitate the addition of a new media component to the multimedia collaboration session upon receipt of a query from a new participant* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0092], The context of the session is stored in the database. The database records are updated in a ConfInProgress table which is part of the conferencing database schema. If the user

had already logged in through the phone, his record is updated to reflect the timestamp of the login from a data window. If the user logs in for the first time, a new record is created in the ConfInProgress table. If the conference that this user is about to participate in was scheduled as a voice and data collaborative conference, then the conference manager informs the converger to stay awake for another session from the user. Should the user already be connected from the voice and data devices, the converger manage user context and user session of the conference in a multimedia format).

As regards to Claim 14, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is configured to facilitate the addition of a new media component to the multimedia collaboration session upon receipt of a query from an existing participant* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0097], Content can also be delivered on multiple channels and devices being used by a user simultaneously. This enables the appliance to allow each participant, for instance using a mobile phone, to participate in a conference and enables a user not only to talk but also to use special commands available on the touch-tone pad of a phone to initiate email delivery to his computer or issue whisper commands to request data or communicate with a subset of the participants).

As regards to Claim 16, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information comprises a telephone number* (as stated page 9, paragraph [0112], The voice conferencing icon or hyperlink 330 gives the status of the voice conferencing session. This allows calls to be forwarded to another phone,

enables new attendees to be included, and provides callbacks and other telephony functions).

As regards to Claim 17, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information includes a list of addresses for the associated participant* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0097], Referring to FIG. 26, discloses list of endpoint addresses associated with the participant. During this registration process, the appliance 10 collects and stores information such as phone number and service provider of the user's mobile phone while other dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the appliance).

As regards to Claim 18, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 17, wherein the list of addresses corresponds to multiple client devices* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0097], This pre-registration process "informs" the appliance 10 of the various devices that a user can use).

As regards to Claim 19, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 17, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to automatically attempt to connect via each of addresses in the list of addresses until it achieves a successful connection* (as stated page 6, paragraph [0086], After a conference has been scheduled, each participant is notified about the conference through a preferred notification method of their choice. Referring to FIG. 25, after the conference has been scheduled, step 240, and the "send notification" process is invoked that sends voice or data notifications and alerts, step 241. For each conference that is just scheduled, all of the participants are grouped, based upon their preferred methods of notification, step

242. If the user has disabled one's notification, step 244, that user is ignored and control moves on to the next notification mode. For participants who have enabled their primary notification, step 243, the notification process checks the user's choice. It can be phone 245, email 246, SMS/MMS 247, pager 248, fax 249 or push 250. Each of the messages warrants custom message composition, step 251. For example, although an email message can be of unlimited length, an SMS message is 80 to 128 characters depending upon the carrier. Once a message is composed, the user is informed through his phone, step 252, email, step 253, SMS/MMS, step 254, pager, step 255, fax, step 256 or push mechanism, step 257).

As regards to Claim 20, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 19, wherein the endpoint address information includes multiple phone numbers for the associated participant* (as stated page 9, paragraph [0114], FIG. 30 shows a converged conference scenario illustrating a 14 step process in which participants use both voice to confer with each other and data to collaborate within the same session. They may be using their mobile phones, PSTN phones or VoIP phones for voice and they may be using their laptop, desktop PC, Blackberry, Palm V or HP Jornada type devices to share and collaborate with data. Thus each participant can have multiple phone numbers as there endpoint address).

As regards to Claim 21, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 20, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to automatically dial each of the multiple phone numbers until it achieves a successful audio connection.* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0094], A participant armed with a VoIP enabled computer or

a wireless personal digital assistant can invoke a VoIP session with the convergence conferencing appliance and participate in a conference with other participants who may be using PSTN phones, mobile phones, VoIP phones or similar VoIP enabled computers and devices. A Voice over IP channel is opened and interaction with the user is purely voice).

As regards to Claim 22, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to enable each participant to edit the participant's associated endpoint address information using the participant's associated client device* (as stated page 8, paragraph [0103-0105], The finite state machine 280 stores the various states of the conferencing application and is instantiated for all participants. It includes a state manager 281, a context manager 282 and a session manager 283. Each attendee in a conference is instantiated a state, context and session. A state, for example, could be "login" when the user logs in, a "telephony interface" (TI) command when the user issues a computer telephony command, etc. The finite state machine 280 interacts with the application controls 285 and accesses XML and other resources 284 for delivery to the media interchange. A request from one device over one media (e.g., voice) may result in results over another media (e.g., data) over another device).

As regards to Claim 23, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information comprises an internet protocol address for a client device* (as stated page 7, paragraph [0097], During this registration process, the appliance 10 collects and stores information such as phone number and service

provider of the user's mobile phone while other dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the appliance. The latter is generally true with endpoint or IP addresses when a computer or a wireless handheld device is connected to an IP network, a wireless local area network or a mobile IP network uses Dynamic Host Control Protocol, 802.11x or Mobile IP protocols, respectively).

As regards to Claim 24, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to distribute the endpoint address information obtained to each participant.* (as stated page 9, paragraph [0112], The video conferencing icon or hyperlink 329 enables the participants to view a real time picture of each participant assuming they have a mounted camera at each location. The voice conferencing icon or hyperlink 330 gives the status of the voice conferencing session. This allows calls to be forwarded to another phone, enables new attendees to be included, and provides callbacks and other telephony functions. The SMS, MMS and Chat link 331 enables participants to send instant messages or instant SMS and MMS messages over computers and mobile phones instantly. Messages could be sent as private messages to a subset or all of the conference participants).

As regards to Claim 25, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 24, wherein the endpoint address information distributed by the multimedia collaboration system can be stored on each of the participant's associated client device* (as stated page 9, paragraph [0113], A conceptual dashboard enabling telephony functions is also available to those using a phone. Using special touchtone commands, participants can forward calls, join more parties to the call, deliver agenda and presentation to their email

address invoke voice commands, whisper commands and do a number of other functions, as illustrated in FIG. 29. Some of these result in invoking data commands such as receiving email and contact information of all participants via email).

Further Girard as stated in col. 52, lines 55-67 disclose, EDGE SWITCH [1] service delivery requires that subscriber Class of Service capabilities, settings, and preferences are stored locally in the FILE SYSTEM [1.23.4], each in the form of a machine-readable data object called a "service profile." Service profiles may be created to store subscriber-specific information required by a variety of applications. CALL PROCESSING APPLICATIONS [1.23.2] require service profiles as a means to store subscriber-specific parameters that affect their control flow. In some cases, service profiles may be created on the EDGE SWITCH [1] by certain network-based applications to function as "cookies," storing application-specific information required for service delivery.

As regards to Claim 26, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein endpoint address information is automatically collected from each client device when an associated participant joins the multimedia collaboration session using the client device* (as stated page 6-7, paragraph [0088], [0097], a participant may join the conference through data, immediately before the voice conference is to start. Alternatively, a participant may join the conference through a phone followed by the data side later. During this registration process, the appliance 10 collects and stores information such as phone number and service provider of the user's mobile phone

while other dynamic device addresses are retrieved from the device when the device connects to the appliance).

As regards to Claim 27, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the new media component is a video stream component* (as stated page 8, paragraph [0100], FIG. 20 illustrates a converged voice and data session in which a user connects first through the phone followed by the browser. The voice session is established followed by the data session, the detailed steps of which have been provided with reference to FIGS. 17-19 hereinabove. FIG. 21 illustrates a block diagram of the components of the conference convergence engine 274 and its operation. The engine 274 interacts with the conference manager and appliance ports 276 to deliver converged content. The converger supports three media streams and media types: Voice, Data and Video 277).

As regards to Claim 28, *The multimedia communication system of claim 27, wherein the endpoint address information obtained by the multimedia collaboration system can be distributed to client device associated with participants that wish to share video streams, and wherein the client devices can use the endpoint address information distributed to the client device to exchange the video streams between the client device* (as stated page 1, paragraph [0013], object of the present invention is to provide a conferencing appliance wherein end users can participate in a rich-media (voice, data and video) conferencing session enabling users to talk, view video, exchange and share files, and collaborate data substantially simultaneously).

As regards to Claim 29, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 28, wherein the client devices sharing the video streams share the video streams in a peer-to-manner using the distributed endpoint address information* (as stated page 2, paragraph [0031], page 3-4, paragraph [0060], FIG. 7 is a schematic block diagram of a peer-to-peer server based video conferencing system. Each video feed from a location is fed to other participating sites through a central server or through a point-to-point connection between endpoints and computers. Voice from each of these conference locations is also distributed and broadcast from each location to the others. Voice and video can be delivered over PSTN, IP, or proprietary network connections 156).

As regards to Claim 30, *The multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, further comprising a plurality of central servers, wherein each of the plurality of central servers is configured to handle a different media component* (as stated page 3-4, paragraph [0060], Referring to FIGS. 6 and 7, server-based 150 or point-to-point 160 videoconference of the prior art enables two or more participants (or group of participants) to "view" each other through a feed from local cameras mounted at each participating location with a computer with video application and equipment 151, 153 or proprietary video endpoint 152 or 154. Each video feed from a location is fed to other participating sites through a central server or through a point-to-point connection between endpoints and computers).

Action Final

4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Muktesh G. Gupta whose telephone number is 571-270-5011. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn can be reached on 571-272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. G./

Examiner, Art Unit 2444

/GREG C BENGZON/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2444